



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

They have cost so far an even hundred thousand dollars. Let it not be whispered in Gath that an extermination which exterminates would be undesirable for any such reason as that it would also exterminate the salaries. Governor Russell has just signed a new bill for seventy-five thousand dollars more, and forty men will immediately gird them for the fight.

And the end is not yet. Thirty towns and cities, covering an area of two hundred miles, have the prolific progeny of the unwelcome visitor already infested. Official circulars posted behind the Salem postoffice door impart the unwelcome intelligence that they are here.

If the ninety and nine moths are killed and the one that escapes becomes the happy parent of a quarter of a million or so of little gypsies, and this ratio of destruction and increase is maintained ad infinitum, where will the suitable and discreet men eventually be, and what will be left of the State Treasury but an empty chrysalis?

PROCEEDINGS OF SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES.

U. S. National Academy of Sciences.—This body met in Washington on April 18–21st for the transaction of business and the reading of papers.

The following papers were read :

The American Maar, G. K. Gilbert; The Form and Efficiency of the Iced Bar Base Apparatus of the U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey, R. S. Woodward (Introduced by T. C. Mendenhall); On Atmospheric Radiation of Heat in Meteorology, C. Abbe; On the Deflecting Forces that Produce the Diurnal Variation of the Normal Terrestrial Magnetic Field, F. H. Bigelow (Introduced by C. Abbe); Abstract of Results from the U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey Magnetic Observatory at Los Angeles, Cal., 1882–1889, part III.; Differential Measures of the Horizontal Component of the Magnetic Force, C. A. Schott; On the Anatomy and Systematic Position of the Mecoptera, A. S. Packard; On the Laws of the Variation of Latitude, S. C. Chandler; On the Causes of Variations of Period in the Variable Stars, S. C. Chandler; On the Force of Gravity at Washington, T. C. Mendenhall; On the Recent Variations of Latitude at Washington, T. C. Mendenhall; On the Acoustic Properties of Aluminum, with Experimental Illustrations, A. M. Mayer; Description of the Silver Haloid Molecule by Mechanical Force, M. Carey Lea (Introduced by G. F. Barker); On the Homologies of the Cranial Arches of the Reptilia,

E. D. Cope; On the Osteology of the Genus *Anniella*, E. D. Cope; The Astronomical, Geodetic, and Electric Consequences of Tidal Strains within an Elastic Terrestrial Spheroid, by C. Abbe; Asiatic Influences in Europe, by E. S. Morse; Exhibition of Chladni's Acoustic Figures Transferred to Paper without Distortion, by A. M. Mayer, and on Electrical Discharges Through Poor Vacua and on Coronoidal Discharges, by M. I. Pupin.

The following gentlemen were elected members: Carl Barns, physicist, of Washington; M. Carey Lea, of Boston, chemist; and S. F. Emmons, of Washington, geologist; no biologist was elected.

Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia.—On Feb. 19th the new lecture hall of the Academy was opened. Dr. Harrison Allen lectured on the "Mechanism of the Mammalian Limb," which was richly illustrated with natural history specimens. Rev. Dr. McCook, in the absence of the president, General Wistar, made the address of the evening, on the opening of the new hall.

Among other things Dr. McCook said: "This building marks the culmination of a new life and policy which a few years ago was adopted by the Academy's administration. Professorships had been provided for in our constitution, but they were only high sounding titles. There were no men to occupy them. It was resolved that, first of all, the professorships should be filled, and that next, work should be given professors to do.

"Only a few years ago a few enthusiastic young professors were placed in the van of the new endeavor. Among them the late Carvill Lewis, Prof. Benjamin Sharpe and Prof. Angelo Heilprin. Prof. Brinton came in at a later date and Prof. J. Gibbons Hunt, the nestor of the faculty, contributed something by his admirable popular lectures before the section of biology and microscopy. The new departure was a substantial success.

"Long before the University Extension movement presented itself the Academy was working on the same lines. And the culmination of this work is this new hall which is now open for classes and courses of lectures.

"This, however, is but the vestibule of an unfinished building. The citizens of Philadelphia should hasten to the completion of the museum building of which this hall forms a part. Complete this building; give us money to endow richly the museum; set these eager hands and minds with all this machinery to work their best, and in twenty-

five years or less there will be no institution to which you may point with such proud satisfaction as this Academy of Natural Sciences."

Boston Society of Natural History.—April 20.—The following papers were read: Dr. John Murray, Some Recent Investigations into the Physical and Biological Conditions of the Lochs and Fjords of the West of Scotland; Mr. E. Adams Hartwell, An Elevated Pot-hole at Fitchburg, Mass; Mr. George H. Barton, Additional Notes on the Drumlins of Massachusetts.—SAMUEL HENSHAW, *Secretary pro tempore*.

The Biological Society of Washington.—April 16.—The following communications were read: Dr. C. W. Stiles, Notes on Parasites, *Tænia ovilla* in its relation to Blanchard's Classification; Mr. F. V. Coville, The Flora of the High Sierras of California; New Plants from California, Nevada, and Utah; Dr. Erwin F. Smith, A Review of Baillon's Botanical Dictionary; Mr. J. N. Rose, Mexican Leguminosæ with Notes on Dr. Palmer's collection.

April 30.—The principle paper of the evening was The Distribution of Land, Water and Ice on this Continent in Later Geological Periods, by Prof. W. J. McGee. Other communications were: Dr. Erwin F. Smith, The Relation of Plants to the Soil. (Illustrated); Mr. Charles Hallock, Where Salt-water Fishes Hide; Results of Deep-water Seining.—FREDERIC A. LUCAS, *Secretary*.

Proceedings of the Natural Science Association of Staten Island.—April 9.—Meeting called to order at 8.30 o'clock. In the absence of the president, Mr. Arthur Hollick was elected chairman *pro tem*.

Mr. L. P. Gratacap submitted the following additional facts in regard to the fossil leaf exhibited at the last meeting.

The specimen was found at Richmond valley, (not at Richmond as previously reported,) a few rods north-east of the railroad station, in an excavation made for a cellar. It was originally part of a larger slab, about 1½ feet square, which seemed to be imbedded in the Drift of the hillside. No indication of any stratum or layer of material similar to the rock was noted. It was found about four years ago, by Mr. Mesner, from whom the above facts were obtained.

Mr. Hollick remarked that the locality, as corrected, removed one of the elements of improbability, which had caused the specimen to be looked at with suspicion, and that it had now been brought within

the area where such a leaf might be looked for. The specimen apparently belongs to the Cretaceous genus *Grewiopsis*, and is contained in a sandstone similar to that of the Dakota group. How it came to be in the position where it was found is more or less problematic, but similar sandstone is found associated with the Cretaceous clays, and it may have been originally in one of these layers, which subsequently suffered erosion and transportation by glacial action, as we know to have been the case with other Cretaceous material in the neighborhood. If such specimens are ever found in place the probabilities are that they will be located in the sandstone layers overlying the Cretaceous clays to the north and west of Richmond Valley station.

Mr. Joseph C. Thompson exhibited a skin of a large muskrat, which was killed in the basement of his residence, at Clifton, on the morning of April 1st.

Mr. Hollick showed a diorite pebble, with a thin section of the same for microscopic examination. The specimen was found in the Drift at Princes Bay and attracted attention from its coarse porphyritic structure, so different from that of the close-grained diabase common in the vicinity. The thin section submitted to microscopic examination showed it to be a diorite, consisting of hornblende and plagioclase feldspar, the former partly altered to green actinolite. A similar rock was found in a place by Mr. Gratacap, on Lambert's Lane, Northfield, and was described by him in the Proceedings for December 12th, 1891.

Mr. Hollick referred to the memorandum in regard to a nest of the Barred Owl having been found near Bull's Head, as noted in the Proceedings of April 11th, 1891, and stated that the birds had again nested in the same tree. On March 12th of the present year a set of three eggs were found by Mr. Charles R. Harte. The tree is located in the same patch of woodland in which the Red Shouldered Hawk nests every year.